1	3	3	4	5
12	M/s. I. T. C. Ltd., Calcutta. . . .	31- 51	49 81	N. A.
13	M/s. M. J. Exports Ltd., Bombay	42-23	44-50	35 63
14	M/s. Century Textiles & Industries Ltd., Bom bay	76-58	76 24	99 92
15	M/s. Steel Authority of India Ltd., New Delhi.	16-52	*19 25*	28 68
16	M/s. National AG CO-OP Mkt. Fed. of India Ltd., New Delhi	17-98	20 26	N. A.
17	M/s. Everest Gems, Bombay. . . .	(-)3'74	14 50	9-69
18	M/s. Ganapati Exports Ltd., Calcutta	62-08	56-50	66'78
19	M/s. A. Tosh & Sons, Calcutta	47-98	41-07	77-43
20	M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd., Bombay NOTE: N. A. means Not Available.	64 26	46-10	N. A.

Recognition given under star trading houses scheme

858. DR. YELAMANCHIU SIVAJU Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only a few business houses are eligible for recogni tion under the newly introduced star trad ing houses scheme in the Import-Export Policy for 1990—95; and

(b) if iso, how many business houses have so far been recognised under the Scheme and how many are likely to be recognised in 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTII. AL PURUSHOTTAMDASI PATEL): (a,) and (b) Six applications were received for the grant of Star Trading Houtse Certificates tin 31-12-1990, the last date of filing such applications. Of these, one has been rejected as the applicant did not fulfil the eligibility criteria. Two applicants have been *prima fade* found eligible for issue of Star Trading House Certificates. The remaining three implications are being examined.

Export of pepper to the United States

859. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of pepper to the United States has sharply come down because of the stringent qua lity control measures imposed by the U. S. Authority, FDA;

(b) whether it is also a fact that US authorities have found rodent and bird excreta in Indian pepper;

(c) if so, how much substandard pep per was exported under quality control labels issued by Government authorities; and

(d) what steps are being taken to re gain the US market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTTLAL. PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL); (a) Decline in export Of pepper to USA was mainly due to stiff competition from other producing countries.

(b) to (d) According to the Export Ins-pection Council, since May, 1988 only **one** consignment of Black Pepper valued at